

While visiting Dialysis Facility Compare, take a look at other areas of www.medicare.gov. You'll find:

- **Prescription Drug and Other Assistance Programs** - identify programs that may assist with your prescription drug and other health care costs.
- **Home Health Compare** - compare home health agencies in your area.
- **Medicare Publications** - view, print, or order Medicare or health related publications.
- **Nursing Home Compare** - allows you to compare nursing homes in your area.
- **Medicare Personal Plan Finder** - allows you to compare available health plans in your area.
- **Your Medicare Coverage** - information about your health care coverage in the Original Medicare Plan.
- **Participating Physician Directory** - locate Medicare participating physicians in your area.
- **Supplier Directory** - contact information and types of supplies offered by Medicare participating suppliers.

CMS Publication No. - 10208
ICN 005762 (Revised August 2003)



Dialysis Facility Compare

Guide to Medicare Certified Dialysis Facilities

ESTABLISHED BY THE
CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES



An important tool is available for you on the Web at www.medicare.gov: Dialysis Facility Compare. This resource gives you detailed information about Medicare-certified dialysis facilities, and lets you compare facilities in your area. The information helps you compare **facility characteristics** and **quality measures**.

Dialysis Facility Characteristics include:

- The name, address, and telephone number of the facility,
- The date the facility first got Medicare certification,
- Shifts starting at 5:00 p.m. or later,
- The number of treatment stations, and
- The types of dialysis offered.

Quality Measures include information about:

- The percent of patients at a facility who got adequate hemodialysis,
- The percent of patients at a facility treated for anemia (low blood count), whose anemia was adequately managed, and
- Patient survival information.

Quality is how well the facility treats its patients. Good quality dialysis care means doing the right thing at the right time, in the right way for the right person--and getting the best possible results. Each quality measure is explained in detail. You are told how the information is gathered and calculated. You also can read about what these quality measures mean to a person getting dialysis.

You can also compare the facility characteristics and quality measures for the facilities you select in your state. This will show you how the facilities you've selected compare with state and national averages.

H

ow to Use Dialysis Facility Compare

First, go to www.medicare.gov on the Web, and select “Dialysis Facility Compare.” You will be led through a four-step process. You can get additional help at any step in the process. The steps are:

1. Select a state/geographic area.
2. Narrow your search by selecting a county, city, ZIP code, or name of a facility.
3. Select the facilities that you would like to get more information about. If you select more than one facility, you will be able to compare the information on all the facilities you chose.
4. Choose from two topics to get more information - Facility Characteristics and Quality Measures.

Dialysis Facility Compare also has other features that will give you the information you need. These features include:

Glossary - Provides definitions about dialysis related terms used on the website and gives information about how the data is obtained.

Publications - View, print, or order the following publications:

- [Dialysis Keeps People with Kidney Failure Alive...Are You Getting Adequate Hemodialysis?](#) (English/Spanish)
- [Preparing for Emergencies: A Guide for People on Dialysis](#) (English/Spanish)
- [Medicare Coverage of Kidney Dialysis and Kidney Transplant Services](#) (English/Spanish)

Helpful Contacts - Allows you to find phone numbers and websites to help answer your questions. In this section are the contact numbers for the Local ESRD* Network and State Survey Agency that can help you with concerns about the quality of care at a dialysis facility.

Related Resources on the Internet -

Other websites that provide information about the treatment of kidney disease can be reached through Dialysis Facility Compare.

*ESRD stands for End-Stage Renal Disease, which is permanent kidney failure requiring dialysis or a kidney transplant.